

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 4-9, 11 and 13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 4007841 to Seipel. The Office Action stated that in Seipel "There is a plurality of claims (34', 35') for releasably securing the base to the surface, the clamps having a hook formation adapted to pass through an aperture in the surface of a machine and hook beneath the surface to rigidly fix the stand to the surface." "The hook formation is tensionable by an over center locking lever (37)..."
Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The only independent Claim, Claim 4, defines, in part, an equipment support stand comprising a base adapted to stand on a surface of a machine; an upstanding rack mounted to the base; and securing means for releasably securing the base to the surface;

the securing means comprising a plurality of clamps which incorporate a hook formation adapted to pass through an aperture in the surface of the machine and hook beneath the surface to thereby rigidly fix the support stand to the surface. Seipel, whether considered alone or in combination with any other references of record, fails to teach or suggest a support stand with a plurality of clamps incorporating a hook formation adapted to pass through an aperture in the surface of the machine and hook beneath the surface to thereby rigidly fix the support stand to the surface. More specifically, Seipel states as follows:

"A modified clamping arrangement and formation for the distal end of the foot 14 is shown in FIGS. 4 and 5

... The clamping action is provided by a clamping member 34' which is drawn upwardly

against the underside of two of the wire rods 18 by means of a J-bolt 35' the lower end of which is threaded and provided with a nut 36' and the upper portion of which is in the form of a down-turned hook 37 which fits down in

a slot 38 in the upper edge of the main section 30' over which it hooks as shown in FIGS. 4 and 5." (Column 3, lines 12-26).

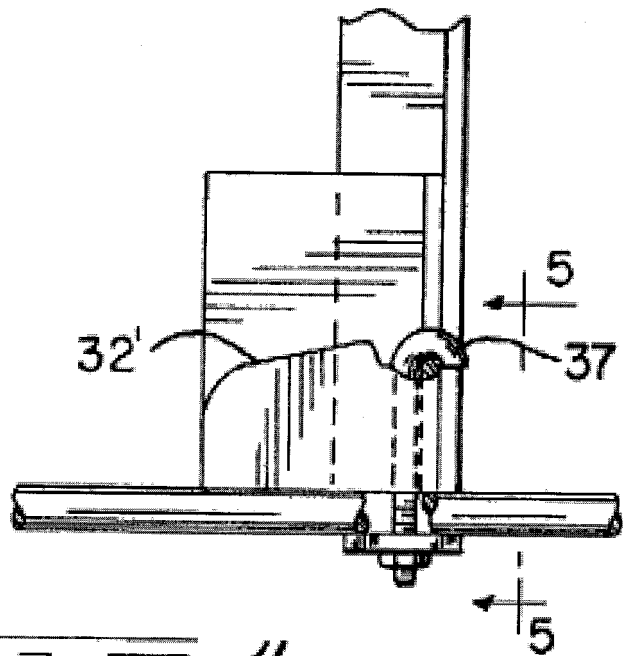


FIG. 4.

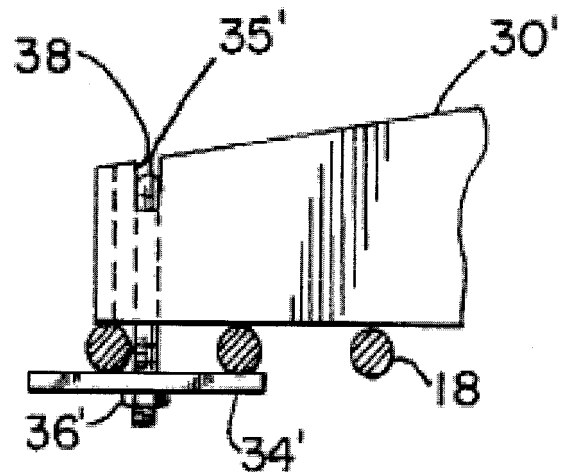


FIG. 5.

Seipel does not teach or suggest clamps which incorporate a hook formation adapted to pass through an aperture in the surface

of the machine. The upside down J-bolt 35' does not include at its lower end a hook formation adapted to pass through an aperture. To the contrary, the lower end of the J-bolt 35' is straight, and after passing through an aperture, has a plate like structure 34' having a hole therein, placed on the end of the J-bolt 35', which is then in turn held on the J-bolt 35' by a nut 36'. There is no other teaching or suggestion for another way to fasten the clamp 34' on the J-bolt 35'.

Applicant's claimed invention permits attachment to the machine surface without the need to have access to the underside of the machine surface. In Seipel, access to the surface underside is required to place the clamp or plate 34' on the J-bolt 35'. Further, as defined in dependent Claim 13, Seipel does not include a clamp with an center locking lever connected thereto which, when tensioned, will tightly clamp the stand to the surface. Seipel merely has a J-bolt with a down-turned hook 37 that hooks over a section of the stand. No center locking lever is provided.

For the above reasons, the allowance and passage to issue of Claim 4, and Claims 5-9, 11 and 13 that depend there from, are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

June 25, 2007

James Earl Lowe, Jr.

James Earl Lowe, Jr.
Registration No. 30,402
15417 W. National Ave. #300
New Berlin, WI 53151
414-427-0298
Customer No. 00006123